

**Environmental Quality Initiative Program (EQIP)  
Approved Land Uses, Resource Concerns, and Conservation Practices to Support  
Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Project for  
Native Grazing Lands Protection in the Plains**

**Approved Land Use**

- Range

**Primary Resource Concerns**

- Inadequate Habitat for Fish and Wildlife–Habitat Degradation
- Degraded Plant Condition–Inadequate Structure and Composition (Range)
- Degraded Plant Condition–Excessive Plant Pest Pressure (Range)
- Degraded Plant Condition–Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health

**Approved Conservation Practices**

112–Prescribed Burning Plan  
314–Brush Management  
315–Herbaceous Weed Control  
338–Prescribed Burning  
384–Woody Residue Treatment  
394–Firebreak  
472–Access Control  
528–Prescribed Grazing

**Application Priority**

- Applications are considered HIGH Priority if the applicant has made an agreement with The Nature Conservancy for Kansas State University to perform hydrology research to better quantify the changes in stream base flows following eastern red cedar removal in adjacent riparian areas and uplands.

**National Ranking Questions**

See Kansas Bulletin KS300-17-8, Fiscal Year 2017 Environmental Quality Incentives Program–Ranking Process–National Priorities.

**State Ranking Questions**

1. Answer the following question if the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP). The agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering “Yes” to the following question. Answering “Yes” to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the state priority category.
  - a. Is the program application to support the development of a CAP for Prescribed Burning? If the answer is “Yes,” do not answer any other state level questions.

If the answer is “No,” proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section. (400 points)

2. Answer ONE of the following three questions related to The Nature Conservancy (TNC) Project Priority Areas.
  - a. Any part of the unit of concern is located in TNC Priority Area 1. (300 points)
  - b. Any part of the unit of concern is located in TNC Priority Area 2. (250 points)
  - c. Any part of the unit of concern is located in TNC Priority Area 3. (100 points)
3. If applicable, answer ONE of the following three questions related to planned treatments for Eastern Red Cedar infestations. If none apply, leave the answer “NO”.
  - a. Unit of concern has infestation areas with more than 5 percent but less than 15 percent canopy cover area. (50 points)
  - b. Unit of concern has infestation area with more than 15 percent canopy cover area. (25 points)
  - c. Unit of concern has infestation areas with less than 5 percent canopy cover area. (5 points)
4. If applicable, answer ONE of the following three questions related to planned treatments for Sericea Lespedeza or Old World Bluestem infestations. If none apply, leave the answer “No”.
  - a. Unit of concern is infested with up to 10 percent of old world bluestem or sericea lespedeza and the producer will implement a plan to control these species. (50 points)
  - b. Unit of concern is infested with no more than 20 percent and no less than 10.1 percent of old world bluestem or sericea lespedeza and the producer will implement a plan to control these species. (25 points)
  - c. Unit of concern is infested with more than 20.1 percent of old world bluestem or sericea lespedeza and the producer will implement a plan to control these species. (5 points)

**Local Ranking Question**

1. Is the program application to support the development of a CAP for a prescribed burn? If answer is “Yes,” do not answer any other local level questions. If the answer is “No,” proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section. (250 points)
2. The offered area has an approved prescribed burn plan, meeting NRCS standard and specification, at the time of application. (250 points)